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Agilent Technologies ships whole human genome on single microarray to gene expression customers for evaluation

Company to introduce first commercial whole human microarray by end of year

PALO ALTO, Calif., Oct. 2, 2003

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- ▶ [Life Sciences](#)
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Agilent Technologies Inc. (NYSE: A) today announced it has shipped whole human-genome microarrays to customers for testing and evaluation. The whole genome microarray is based on Agilent's new double-density format, which can accommodate 44,000 features on a single 1" x 3" glass-slide microarray. The new platform enables drug-discovery and disease researchers to perform whole-genome screening at a lower cost and with higher reproducibility.

"This is an important step toward our release of the first whole human-genome microarray product, which is expected to be available for order before the end of the year," said Barney Saunders, vice president and general manager of Agilent's BioResearch Solutions Unit. "Customers have long wanted a one-sample, one-chip format with the increased sensitivity associated with 60-mer probes. The cost savings and high-quality performance make this product a compelling alternative for scientists who make their own microarrays."

Agilent's microarrays are based on the industry-standard 1" x 3" (25mm x 75mm) format, which is compatible with most commercial microarray scanners. All Agilent commercial microarrays are developed using content from public databases and proprietary sources, with full sequence and annotation information made available to customers. Gene sequences for probes are developed using algorithms and then validated empirically through iterative wet-lab testing procedures. The result is a microarray comprised of functionally validated probes, with the most up-to-date and comprehensive genome information commercially available.

Advantages of the double-density format include:

- Lower cost. Not only is one microarray less expensive than two, it requires fewer reagents and reduces instrumentation demands.
- Streamlined workflow. Researchers need prepare and process only one microarray instead of two. This also results in fewer steps in the subsequent data analysis.
- Greater reproducibility. Use of a single microarray further reduces unnecessary variability in experimental conditions.
- Smaller sample use. A smaller quantity of sample material is required to perform an experiment.

Availability

Agilent's Whole Human Genome Microarray is expected to be available for order by the end of the year.

About Agilent Technologies

Agilent Technologies Inc. (NYSE: A) is a global technology leader in communications, electronics, life sciences and chemical analysis. The company's 30,000 employees serve customers in more than 110 countries. Agilent had net revenue of \$6 billion in fiscal year 2002. Information about Agilent is available

on the Web at www.agilent.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

This news release contains forward-looking statements (including, without limitation, statements relating to Agilent's expectation that its whole-genome microarray platform will be available for order before the end of 2003) that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause results to differ materially from management's current expectations. These and other risks are detailed in the company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended Oct. 31, 2002, its Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended July 31, 2003 and its Current Report on Form 8-K filed Aug. 18, 2003. The company assumes no obligation to update the information in this press release.

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Today's News

Affymetrix Announces Commercial Launch of Single Array for Human Genome Expression Analysis



AFFYMETRIX GENECHIP(R) BRAND HUMAN GENOME U133 PLUS 2.0 ARRAY

Affymetrix GeneChip(R) Brand Human Genome U133 Plus 2.0 Array.
(PRNewsFoto)[AS]
SANTA CLARA, CA USA 10/02/2003

[Website](#)

More Than 1 Million Probes Analyze Expression Levels of Nearly 50,000 RNA Transcripts and Variants on a Single Array the Size of a Thumbnail

SANTA CLARA, Calif., Oct. 2 /PRNewswire/ -- Affymetrix, Inc., (Nasdaq: **AFFX**) announced today that it is taking orders for its new GeneChip(R) brand Human Genome U133 Plus 2.0 Array, offering researchers the protein-coding content of the human genome on a single commercially available catalog microarray. The HG-U133 Plus 2.0 Array analyzes the expression level of nearly 50,000 RNA transcripts and variants with 22 different probes per transcript, providing superior data quality unmatched by technologies using a single probe per transcript.

(Photo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20031002/SFTH021>)

"With about 1.3 million probes on a chip the size of a human thumbnail, the Human Plus Array represents a leap in array technology data capacity, and further demonstrates the unique power and potential of our technology to explore vast areas of the genome," said Trevor J. Nicholls, Ph.D., Chief Commercial Officer. "Multiple independent measurements for each transcript ensure that our data quality remains the industry standard, even as our data capacity increases dramatically."

The HG-U133 Plus 2.0 Array, which will ship in October, combines the content of the previous HG-U133 two-array set with nearly 10,000 new probe sets representing about 6,500 new genes, for a total of nearly 50,000 RNA transcripts and variants. This new information, verified against the latest version of the publicly available genome map, provides researchers the most comprehensive and up-to-date genome-wide gene expression analysis. The probe design strategy of the HG-U133 Plus 2.0 Array is identical to the previous HG-U133 Set, providing very strong data concordance between the two products. With more than double the data capacity of the previous-generation Affymetrix human product, the HG-U133 Plus 2.0 Array can significantly cut processing and analysis time for scientists in the lab, freeing up valuable resources and accelerating research.

The HG-U133 Plus 2.0 Array sets a new standard for the number of genes and transcripts on any commercially available single array for human gene

expression analysis, while maintaining Affymetrix' unrivaled data quality. The HG-U133 Plus 2.0 Array uses 22 independent measures to detect the hybridization of each transcript on the array, 1.3 million data points in all, more than 30 times that of any other microarray technology. Using multiple, independent measurements provides optimal sensitivity and specificity, and the most accurate, consistent and statistically significant results possible.

"More data points produce more reliable results and ultimately, enable better science," said Nicholls. "Our powerful probe set strategy gives our customers the assurance that their array results actually reflect what's in their sample."

Affymetrix is also launching an updated 11-micron version of its popular 18-micron HG-U133A Array called the GeneChip HG-U133A 2.0 Array. The reduced feature size on this new design means researchers can use smaller sample volumes than on the previous 18-micron array without compromising performance. This new array represents over 20,000 transcripts that can be used to explore human biology and disease processes. All probe sets represented on the original GeneChip HG-U133A Array are identically replicated on the GeneChip HG-U133A 2.0 Array.

More information on the design of the HG-U133 Plus 2.0 Array and the HG-U133A 2.0 Array may be found on the Affymetrix website at <http://www.affymetrix.com>.

Affymetrix will be presenting further information on this and other products at the BioTechnica trade show in Hanover, Germany on Oct. 7-9, 2003. The Company will also hold a press conference on Oct. 7, from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. at the show regarding the new Human Genome U133 Plus 2.0 Array. If you would like to attend this press conference, please contact Caroline Stupnicka at c.stupnicka@northbankcommunications.com.

About Affymetrix:

Affymetrix is a pioneer in creating breakthrough tools that are driving the genomic revolution. By applying the principles of semiconductor technology to the life sciences, Affymetrix develops and commercializes systems that enable scientists to improve the quality of life. The Company's customers include pharmaceutical, biotechnology, agrichemical, diagnostics and consumer products companies as well as academic, government and other non-profit research institutes. Affymetrix offers an expanding portfolio of integrated products and services, including its integrated GeneChip platform, to address growing markets focused on understanding the relationship between genes and human health. Additional information on Affymetrix can be found at <http://www.affymetrix.com>.

All statements in this press release that are not historical are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act as amended, including statements regarding Affymetrix' "expectations," "beliefs," "hopes," "intentions," "strategies" or the like. Such statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially for Affymetrix from those projected, including, but not limited to risks of the Company's ability to achieve and sustain higher levels of revenue, higher gross margins, reduced operating expenses, uncertainties relating to technological approaches, manufacturing, product development, market acceptance (including uncertainties relating to product development and market acceptance of the GeneChip HG-U133 Human Plus 2.0 Array and the HG-U133A 2.0), personnel retention, uncertainties related to cost and pricing of Affymetrix products, dependence on collaborative partners, uncertainties relating to sole source suppliers, uncertainties relating to FDA and other regulatory approvals, competition, risks relating to intellectual property of others and the uncertainties of patent protection and litigation. These and other risk factors are discussed in Affymetrix' Form 10-K for the

year ended December 31, 2002 and other SEC reports, including its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for subsequent quarterly periods. Affymetrix expressly disclaims any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in Affymetrix' expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions, or circumstances on which any such statements are based.

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